GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:862
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
UPLIFTMENT OF SCS/STS UNDER BELOW POVERTY LINE
LAXMAN GILUWA;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of people below poverty line has reduced from 35 to 26 percent;

(b) if so, the percentage of people belonging to SCs and STs amongst the above;

(c) the measures being taken or bring SCs and STs at par with the people of other communities; and

(d) the percentage of success achieved in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) Yes Sir. As per the information of Planning Commission, the percentage of people below poverty line has reduced from 35.97 in the year 1993-94 to 26.10 in1999-2000.

(b) (i) Anong total poor, 25.8% belonged to SCs and 12.5% to STs in 1993-94 and 26.3% belong to SCs and 14.5% to STs in the year 1999-2000.

(ii) However, the percentage of Scheduled Castes population living below poverty line outof total population of SCs has come down from48.4% in 1993-94 to 36.7% in 1999-2000 in the country. The percentage of Scheduled Tribes population living below poverty line out of total population of STs has come down fron 50.8% in 1993-94 to 44.6% in 1999-2000.

(c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs supplements the schemes of States and UTs by providingcent percent grant under the Scheme for Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan forfilling critical gaps under income generating projects, granting loans through the National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation and through State channelisingagencies. Similarly Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is also implementing certain schemes in this regard.

(d) Population of the SCs below poverty line has reduced by 11.7% over a period from 1993- 94 to 1999-2000 and that of the STs below poverty line has reduced by 6.2% during the same period.